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PATENT

Atty. Docket No. PP019681.0002

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March 2, 2007

Date

Sharleen Lane

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: LAGWINSKI *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/655,588

Filing Date: September 5, 2003

Title: METHODS FOR VERIFYING FLUID
MOVEMENT

Examiner: Brian J. Sines

Group Art Unit: 1743

Confirmation No.: 7324

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed February 5, 2007, *Applicant hereby elects with traverse Group I (claims 1-17) for examination.*

The Examiner has required restriction between Group I (claims 1-17), drawn to a method for verifying the transfer of a fluid from a first to a second composition, Group II (claims 18-25) drawn to a method of monitoring the flow of a reagent to a composition, Group III (claims 26-30), drawn to a method of verifying the transfer of a plurality of fluids to a container, Group IV (claim 31) drawn to a method for preparing a dilute solution and Group V (claims 32-36) drawn to a method for determining the cleanliness of a vessel.

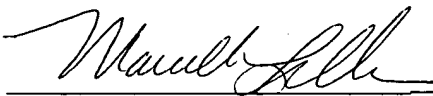
The Examiner has indicated that the above Groups of claims are distinct from each other because they have "different modes of operation and effects." The Examiner has provided no further explanation or examples of what different modes or different effects the claimed methods have. Applicant requests that the Examiner provide a further explanation of the reasons for restriction of these claimed methods.

As the Examiner has recognized, all of the claimed methods utilize luminescent semiconductor nanocrystals. All of the claimed methods utilize the nanocrystals to monitor the status of the composition(s) containing the nanocrystal, albeit in slightly different fashions to slightly different ends. Applicant believes that there would be no serious burden on the Examiner to search all of the methods together. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn.

Applicant believes that no fees are due with this response. If that is not the case, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1664.

Respectfully submitted,
NOVARTIS VACCINES AND DIAGNOSTICS, INC.

Dated: 3/2/07

By: 
Marcella Lillis
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 36,583

NOVARTIS VACCINES AND DIAGNOSTICS, INC.
Corporate Intellectual Property – R338
P.O. Box 8097
Emeryville, CA 94662-8097
Telephone: (510) 923-8406
Facsimile: (510) 655-3542